

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JORDAN
IN THE COUNTY OF SCOTT
August 18, 2020**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Present: Ryan Dahnert, Amanda Schuh, Joe Thill, Tanya Velishek,
Also Present: Nathan Fuerst, Planner/Economic Development Specialist,

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.

2.0 ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Velishek, second Thill, to adopt the agenda.

Thill requests to add attendance to the discussion.

Velishek amends motion, second Thill, Vote all ayes. Motion carried.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 21, 2020

Motion by Velishek, second Thill to approve the minutes as presented. Vote all ayes. Motion approved.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

A. New Member Application – Shane Ahlbrecht

Planner Fuerst introduces EDA Commissioner applicant Shane Ahlbrecht to the EDA. Ahlbrecht then introduces himself and summarizes his interest in the EDA.

Commissioner Thill asks Ahlbrecht if he will be able to attend EDA meetings each month. Ahlbrecht confirms, and mentions that attendance is event possible remotely when business travel resumes.

Mayor Velishek asks about what Ahlbrecht feels about the next 5 years of progression in Jordan.

Ahlbrecht responds that he would like to see a continued focus on Downtown revitalization and a continuation of Industrial development.

Chair Dahnert asks what sells Jordan in the SW Metro? Ahlbrecht responds that it depends on where people are from. Jordan is a great place because there's one of everything. Residents enjoy the proximity to the metro and good schools.

Thill asks what would be a pet project for you? Ahlbrecht responds that the City could do a better job about communicating to the community what is available. Things to do in Jordan on the weekend, marketing and awareness, etc.

Ahlbrecht asks what have people seen as the biggest challenge to accomplishing the city's Economic Dev. Goals?

Velishek responds that it's difficult moving projects forward without moving three steps back.

Dahnert responds that Stillwater is an aspirational destinations. It's hard to get projects over the finish line. The city has done a good job at being ambitious and ultimately financing for projects is difficult.

Thill motions, Velishek seconds recommend Shane Ahlbrecht's appointment to the EDA for City Council approval. Vote all ayes. Motion Carried.

B. New Member Application – Derek Nelson

Planner Fuerst introduces EDA Commissioner applicant Derek Nelson to the EDA. Nelson then introduces himself and summarizes his interest in the EDA.

Velishek asked for more clarification in interest in shovel ready projects. Nelson responds that more light to medium industrial development would be a priority for him.

Dahnert asks why Jordan? Nelson responds that it is a close-knit community, schools are better than surrounding communities. He talks to his neighbors and hears only good things.

Thill asks what would you do differently to sell Jordan? Nelson responds internet and SEO, have keyword optimization, how can Jordan appear first in searches for residential.

Thill asks how do you pull in businesses from surrounding communities? Nelson responds that he would want to learn more about what's in it for them.

Nelson asks how well does the commission work together?

Dahnert says it works well in the EDA more softball type things, big focus on marketing.

Velishek responds that many great ideas and other projects have come through the EDA.

Dahnert responds that the EDA is laser focused on economic development and related initiatives.

Thill states that the EDA is the sales team for Jordan. Asks how Nelson would sell the City?

Nelson is in contact with many in the community, his thought is to always be positive, if he's bought into it, others will.

Schuh feels that Derek's experience with a chamber is good. At this time, the City does not have one, and staff are asked to take on some of those types of responsibilities.

Schuh motions, Thill seconds recommend Derek Nelson's appointment to the EDA for City Council approval. Vote all ayes. Motion Carried.

C. Review of Downtown Matching Grant Language

Fuerst introduces possible areas to revise the City's Downtown Matching Grant which is intended to support façade and exterior beautification and restoration. Chair Dahnert clarifies that the intent of the public subsidy is seed money with the intent of spurring projects downtown. In the past couple years, the grant has been used for larger requests.

Chair Dahnert requested to review what is available at the next meeting. EDA Commissioners also agreed on a review of the Downtown Master Vision and where we are at.

Velishek asked if this item was brought in relation to any specific request. Fuerst confirmed that it is not.

D. Review of Downtown Matching Grant Language

Fuerst introduces possible revisions to the Jordan Small Business Relief Fund.

Dahnert stated concern with letting all businesses utilize the grant.

In the application, small businesses may be reluctant to provide the documentation that they are eligible for the PPP.

Thill requested removal of the property tax requirement.

Dahnert stated that if the EDA set a budget, could the city administratively approve and release the funds?

Fuerst stated that it is most likely not legal but would clarify that with Staff.

Dahnert motion, second Thill to amend the Jordan Small Business Relief Fund Grant pursuant to the amendments presented. Vote All Ayes. Motion Carries.

5.0 OLD BUSINESS

6.0 MANAGEMENT REPORT

A. General Management Updates

Fuerst reported that the City has received a Sketch Plan Review application for a residential development of between 400-500 units of housing.

B. Next Meeting- August 18, 2020

7.0 CITY COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATE

Councilor Amanda Schuh reported no updates.

Mayor Velishek reported no updates.

8.0 COMMISSION MEMBER REPORT

Commissioners reported no updates.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Velishek, second Schuh, to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Vote all ayes. Motion carried.

Tanya Velishek, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tom Nikunen, City Administrator